

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, California

***United States Attorney
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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - March 22, 2006

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that United States District Court Judge Barry Ted Moskowitz today sentenced Philip Scheinman and his co-defendant father, David “Doc” Scheinman, both Las Vegas residents, in federal district court in San Diego following their pleas of guilty on August 12, 2005, to federal felony wire fraud charges relating to the sale of forged sports memorabilia. Judge Moskowitz sentenced Philip Scheinman to serve 6 months in custody and 4 months in a halfway house, followed by 2 years of supervised release, and 200 hours of community service, and to pay a fine of \$25,000 and a special assessment fee of \$100. Judge Moskowitz ordered David “Doc” Scheinman to serve 6 months of home detention, followed by 3 years of probation, and to pay a fine of \$5,000 and a special assessment fee of \$100. Judge Moskowitz also ordered both defendants barred from working in the sports and celebrity memorabilia business and to jointly pay restitution in the amount of \$19,118 to identified victims.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney John Owens, who prosecuted the case, Philip Scheinman and David “Doc” Scheinman operated a sports memorabilia store in Las Vegas called “Smokey’s Sportscards,”

through which they sold forged sports memorabilia from the store and their website to customers throughout the United States. They also sold forged memorabilia through Internet auctions.

In pleading guilty, the Scheinmans acknowledged that they knowingly sold sports memorabilia bearing forged signatures, but told customers that the signatures were genuine. These forged signatures included those of Hall of Fame baseball players Walter Johnson and George Sisler, members of the Chicago Bulls basketball championship team (including Michael Jordan), baseball slugger Mark McGwire, and baseball manager Casey Stengel.

DEFENDANTS **Case Number: 04CR2865WQH**

Phillip A. Scheinman

David “Doc” Scheinman

SUMMARY OF CHARGES AND MAXIMUM PENALTIES

Phillip A. Scheinman

Wire Fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343
Maximum Penalty: 5 years in custody and/or \$250,000 fine

David “Doc” Scheinman

Wire Fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343
Maximum Penalty: 5 years in custody and/or \$250,000 fine

AGENCY

Federal Bureau of Investigation